

R. W. THOMAS, Editor.

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CLARKSVILLE: JAN. 15, 1876.

ECONOMY, A FINANCIAL AGENT.

A free discussion of the financial problem is, by no means, objectionable when it is remembered that conflict of opinion often elicits truth. But should not be forgotten, in the meantime, that a wise and judicious economy is an important factor in the ultimate solution of our financial troubles, and the best security against the recurrence of similar crises in our future history. On the question of economy, however, we are met by many difficulties as seem to surround the question of finance—the same contrary of opinions as to the how and where to apply the pruning-hook. All admit the necessity for economizing, but in the absence of generally intelligent views, in the presence of conflicting interests, and in the absence of a common basis of action, it is almost impossible to secure the harmony essential to success. There seems to be a very general belief that elections are demoralizing as well as expensive, yet should one suggest that the Governor should be elected once in four years and the Legislature for a like term, objections would be made in many quarters, in spite of the undoubted opinion that the State might be the gainor in money and morals, and the administration of justice be improved by letting the laws rest on the shoulders of a single body for a period of four years. The same result would follow the proposition to drag the judiciary out of the mire of politics and give it a position independent of popular caprice and the contaminating influences of ignorance and vice clothed with the sacred privilege of the elective franchise. A large proportion of our present voting population would, as it would be, by incensed demagogues, be sufficient to defeat any proposed reform however wise and well guarded against abuse, so that the work of reform, except in non-essential, seems almost like a hopeless undertaking.

There is a universal outcry against the heavy expense of criminal prosecutions; yet without a work-house and machinery for the speedy and cheap disposal of small offences, the chances for the curtailment of costs seem very remote. And when cases get into the Criminal Court the people have no remedy against continuances, mistrials, new trials, appeals, reversals and the thousand and one quicks and tricks that have become intertwined with the system of practice—which system, by means of legislation and court decisions, has become virtually a part of the law itself. This entangled in a network of special pleas, usages and precedents, there is little hope of relief from the burden of court costs until the people learn to choose law-givers with the ability and integrity to protect their interests. It might be suggested that much may be saved by reducing the number of offices in the county; but to do this requires popular firmness and intelligence, and as long as each man waits for his neighbor to act, the few will govern the many. There is room for great reform, none will deny; that the people could be made more prosperous thereby, is equally true, but if the people collectively, or as Grangers, do not set the ball in motion, it must remain stationary or roll backwards.

THE New York Herald has published in detail the constitution, signs, grips and passwords of the new "Order of American Union," the sole object of which is to secure for Grant a third term, by getting up a crusade against Catholics—political in the beginning, but ending in a crusade for the Reformation over its success to the truth of its doctrines and the force of its facts and arguments. Have these been so far lost in the lapse of time as to require a new effort for the preservation and spread of those doctrines through the uncalled for intervention of an ambitious demagogue, over whom Christian morality has no saving influence? In controversies about points of faith, an appeal to force is evidence of conscious weakness and want of confidence in the truth and justice of a cause which seeks such extraneous aid. Protestantism must have reached a low ebb indeed, if it is ready to accept the guidance of a corrupt politician, an enemy of the Republic, and of civil and religious liberty, whose sole motive is self-aggrandizement, and whose only argument is an appeal to the instincts of grossly corrupt party leaders and to the ignorance and bigotry of the Catholic. If Protestantism must needs have aid against the power of the Pope and the seductive arguments of his missionaries, let it look not to Washington for a Luther, nor amongst those who have trampled upon the Constitution and spurned the teachings of Christianity. Grant wants a third term, and this is the beginning and the end of his pretended zeal for the protestant cause.

It is strange that the exclusively hard money advocates have not discovered how easy it is to make good the natural deficiency in the supply of precious metals. All that is necessary is to reduce by two thirds, the size of each piece of coin, and then quadruple its fictitious value. Should the lower denominations of gold coin become microscopic, by means of the subdivision, silver pieces, of larger size, but of equivalent value, can be substituted, and thus bring into active use, the larger of the two precious metals. By pursuing this plan of subdivision and corresponding increase of denominational values to the extent desired, paper currency may be made as good as gold, and the price of grain reduced for the benefit of paper mills.

The honest men of the country are more than pleased to see the thorough preparation being made by the Democratic majority in the House to put the Radical reservoirs of political corruption. It is an exceedingly disgusting job, but as the life of the Republic depends upon the operation, the political surgeons must nerve themselves for the task.

FORNEY thinks Grant will not be the candidate for this year; but Grant thinks he will, and from his opinion there will be no Radical dissent.

## OUR BONDHOLDERS.

We must not be understood, from anything we have written, as objecting to the holders of our State bonds assembling themselves together, if that be possible, and making any voluntary concession to the State that they may choose to make. Far from it. Whatever they may give up, we "commend" to the State, and the State can gratefully and honorably accept; but with our chief Executive, we repeat, that the State cannot invite them to such an entertainment. In view of the late commercial panic and protracted drought, following upon the general impoverishment of war, the present position of the State with regard to its creditors is entitled to the charitable construction of all right minded men, for it is more than probable that but for the same God and divine Tennessee would be honoring her obligations to-day. She had just got into time to meet her creditors when these calamities fell upon her. There are always some that will not, until forced, fall into ranks, and who never fail to avail themselves of any opportunity that may arise to produce disorder and flight. Welcome to them is any pretext to cover their retreat. It is in vain that the more courageous endeavor to breast the storm until the danger blows over. The danger is exaggerated into terrible proportions until at last the Waterloo cry is blown from the ears of the timid and disinterested. In this air, Panics and droughts are accidents, exceptional; not rules of commercial and material life. They pass away and are forgotten. Legislation on them is generally worse than useless. As thus: the legislature, as a relief measure, issued State warrants as a substitute for currency, receivable for taxes. Well, who has got the warrants? The people? No! you can find them at the counters of the banker and broker, and they will sell them to you for a consideration. And the people have to be taxed to pay off these warrants at par. It was a bill not for the benefit of the people, but to add to the profits of bankers and brokers, the usual results of such special legislation. But "twas ever thus."

We had the bondholders under consideration, but have unintentionally wandered from that man of many epithets. He has no friends and whenever one desires to "run a muck," he is always on hand to be "pitched into." He is always connected with Shylock. It is a Hebrew still provides over his class, and just now a Portia is sought for to bring him to grief. The bondholder is exacting, rapacious and always "bloated." In short, a very impopular, unpopular and unwholesome man! But who made our bondholder? How was he brought into existence? The State wanted money, issued its promises to pay, and he advanced the money upon her promises. And so it turns out that we, the people, through our chosen representatives, made our bondholder. Now who is to blame, if blame there be, in this transaction? The State or the bondholder? The tempter or the tempted? The old snake or Eve? If it was bad policy in the State to borrow, the bondholder is not responsible for that. But it may be said that the people were misrepresented in the legislature. Possibly; but the bondholder didn't elect the legislature. The bonds now held against the State were issued before the war, and not by Brownlow legislators. It is we, the people, that are responsible for our own debt. It is charged that the bondholder bought our bonds below their par value. Whose fault was that? We, the people, again. The State, through its agents, non-action and non-act, depreciated its own paper. It is said that the bondholder must take what he gave for the bonds, and not what the State agreed to pay. How are we to ascertain that price paid? Imagine a sovereign State pursuing a bond from the original purchaser, should he ever be found, to Smith, from Smith to Jones, and from Jones to Robinson. The conclusion is, that the whole matter is, that the State, by certain parties, is expected to depreciate her own securities and then buy them up!

In some quarters we have been reminded, with a triumphant air, that the State cannot be sued. True, but why? Simply because it was always heretofore supposed that a State, in its business transactions, would furnish an example of honesty and fair dealing to every citizen. The very position of a State, as sovereign, demands it. *Noblesse oblige.* You give another your note for a thousand dollars; afterward you transfer your property, so that the arm of the law cannot reach you, and then you coolly inform your blasted bondholder that if he will take five hundred dollars for your bond, he can get that, or nothing. What name do you give to that transaction? Rascality! And yet there are men who would treat the State as a debtor, who paid *par* for his bonds, in the same way.

It is difficult to realize the extent of the demoralization caused by war. Time was, when there was no need for reminding citizens that there could exist no government without taxation, and that without government life and property were at the mercy of the strongest—without government, supported by taxation, incendiarism, murder, theft, anarchy, political chaos; all the horrors of the French Commune would have been ours. State government being suspended during the war, there were no taxes to pay to the State for several years, and many find it difficult now to reform the habit of paying. They would prefer to wipe out the State, and begin civil life afresh, throwing behind them all the responsibilities of the past; but we cannot thus get rid of our State relation and citizenship. As easily and as honestly could we ignore the relation of parent and child, and husband and wife. A man may have support and to have money, he must support a government. He cannot exist as a vagabond. Even the wretched, Danton, when urged to flee the guillotine, exclaimed, "whither shall I go? a man does not carry his country on the sole of his shoe!" Whenever Tennessee shall have recovered the State pride she once felt, the honor and dignity of our commonwealth will be forever secure.

The Radical Senate is anxious to get rid of Ferry, the *pro tem* Vice President. It is no doubt feared that too much of the "crooked" may occasion an early vacancy in the White-house, in which event it is desirable that an eastern man should succeed to the throne.

EX-SENATOR TRUMBULL, of Illinois, in a published letter, has this to say about the true issue before the country:

"Of course I am in favor of a sound currency, though I differ with others in the opinion that the financial question is the leading one in our politics. I consider administration reform and the limiting of the Federal Government to its constitutional powers as the paramount issues of the day."

The ex-Senator is, doubtless, right in defining what should be the leading issue in our politics, but seem to have forgotten that since the war this has been the primary question with every patriot, the theme of every writer and orator who loves his country; yet the self-evident truth of the proposition has been presented in vain to the ignorance and prejudice of the northern masses, whose selfish and corrupt leaders have cheated them into the belief that error is truth and wisdom, and the grossest corruption the highest manifestation of patriotic virtue. We admit that "the paramount issues of the day," are reform in the administration of the government and the restriction of the government within the limits of its constitutional powers, but this has been the platform of the Conservative element ever since the close of the war, and what has been the result? Corruption, usurpation, ignorance and fanaticism combined have uniformly triumphed over the Constitution, enfeebled patriotism and weakened public virtue. Is there a better prospect this year, than heretofore that truth and political justice will triumph over a faulty government? We think not, but that a revolution is going on in public sentiment against the dominant party hostile to free institutions and their wise administration, but we are slow to believe that the usurpations of power by that party are the exciting causes of such revolution, which is clearly traceable to that selfishness which places money above every other consideration. This grovelling passion, stimulated into activity by the wholesale robberies of the people by the government, and the war waged by capital against productive labor, are doing more to revolutionize public sentiment than all the warnings of the most earnest patriotism against the dangers impending over the safety of the Republic.

It is a humiliating reflection that love of liberty and the blessings it bestows has so feeble a hold upon the hearts of the people that they can be induced to array themselves against the spoilers of their rights and privileges, by no higher consideration than the pecuniary benefits to be derived out of ceaseless deceptions upon the Treasury by their own trusted officials. It is this unworthy feeling that has given the currency question priority among the issues of the day. To degrade the question into a mere incident in the platform, as suggested by Mr. Trumbull, might weaken the opposition tenfold more than it would be strengthened by all the wise political axioms that can be crowded into the next platform of the Democratic party. Patriotism is a lost element in American character, and if the Republic can be saved only by appeals to unworthy motives, we must make a virtue of the necessity.

The debate on the Amnesty bill will be the event of the session. Blaine falsified the record of war to make capital for himself, as a Presidential candidate and tore passion into tatters in the vain effort to insult the State through its pure statesman, Jefferson Davis—forgetting in his maddened zeal that he was transmitting to posterity, unto his children, a new paper, that his fears magnified the danger to be apprehended from the enfranchisement of a single individual in all the South, and that man as gentle and refined in feeling as the purest woman. But whether fear, or a baser motive, prompted his outrage upon truth, justice and humanity, we have little doubt that the withering rebuke and exhortation lashing administered by S. S. Cox and B. H. Hill, have made the Presidential aspirant from the outer verge of New England civilization, regret that he called into play those noble attributes of man which spurn the grovelling meanness of the demagogue and the greater baseness of the corrupt partizan. Blaine may have made capital with the Haves of the church and the ruling spirits of thieves rings, but he has won no advocate who a high-toned gentleman would recognize as a friend.

MISSISSIPPI has a rare chance to serve the whole country by making a Senator of the gifted and noble Lamar, and then supplying his place in the House with its next best specimen of a patriot and statesman. If the honor of the government and the restoration of public virtue are to be secured in the future, it is clear to every close observer that the task devolves upon the South. The real people of this section are honest and patriotic—the exceptions being the migratory carpet-bagger and the mercenary seafarer, and when the South puts forward such representative men as Lamar, the better portion of the Northern people welcome them as invaluable coadjutors in the work of redemption and reform.

CARL SCHURZ is very emphatic in the expression of his belief that Grant's administration is the prolific source of the debasement of public virtue; but thinks it monstrous that he should be suspected of complicity in the frauds of the whisky rings. If the villainous conduct of his own appointees, and his efforts to shield some of them from punishment, is not proof of his guilt, inductive philosophy is at fault and logic has lost its force. The remedy is to expose and punish crime, instead of concealing it that foreign countries may not blush for the degradation of the administration and of those who have placed it in power.

MORTON, after all his efforts to give himself prominence as a Presidential candidate, is content with the humble office of ensign, and to wave the "bloody shirt" from his staff as the battle flag of the third termers. Like water, he has found his level—may he never rise above it!

If the universal welcome extended to the centennial year was prompted by genuine patriotism, there is still hope for the Republic, provided that outburst of feeling is fostered by wisdom.

The amendment offered by ex-Speaker Blaine to extend the amnesty proposition to all save Hon. Jefferson Davis, is the most narrow-minded and vindictive exhibition of feeling that ever disgraced the Halls of Congress. That radical aspirant to the Presidency has not the shrewdness to perceive that his attempt to display his malignant hatred of the South can have no other effect than to give his intended victim a distinguished place in history, which Blaine can never approach except for the sake of a striking contrast between the purest and the meanest of mankind.

AFTER the North has secured its Pacific railroads, at a cost of hundreds of millions to the whole country, and for which the South is required to pay its quota, without any equivalent, it is exceedingly magnanimous in the favored section to raise the cry of "no more subsidies" for railroads!

MORTON may be right, but we do not believe the people of the North can be again lashed into frenzy by the sight of a "bloody shirt," on a flag-staff. Knives will affect terror, but honest men will laugh at the shallow device.

As no stir is being made about trouble with Spain, Cuba, or Mexico, it would seem that Grant is content with the "bonanza" he struck in the shape of a religious war for the maintenance of non-sectarian schools.

If there is a branch of the public service free from the grossest frauds and the greed of men and their Treasury, the fact should be published for the honor of the government.

THE Texas Democratic Convention unanimously nominated Gov. Coke for re-election. This action shows that the candidate is appreciated and Democracy a unit.

CONTRACTORS and bankrupts still keep even pace. Failure follows failure in quick succession, and capital relaxes not its grip upon the throat of productive industry.

THE Mobile Register calls the Chicago Inter-Ocean the "automatic liar," because it lies at the bidding of its masters.

THE U. S. flag, in Charleston, S. C., is used as a surface on which to paste patent advertisements, yet loyalty is supreme in that locality.

## LETTER FROM HICKMAN COUNTY.

Editors CHRONICLE.—During my late illness at Thomsville you were kind enough to mention the fact and tender me sympathy through the columns of your very excellent paper, for which please to accept my sincere gratitude. Allow me next to wish yourself and my friends Messrs. Nebel and Grant, a happy New Year, and then I will tell you and your readers something of Centerville, Hickman County, and what is going on in this locality. Centerville is a beautiful little town with about 350 inhabitants, situated on the west bank of Duck River, about 55 miles Southwest of Nashville, and 75 South of Clarksville. The traveler who visits Centerville from either of the cities just named coming via Ellison's Mills and the County Poor House from Nashville, or via Charlotte and Bon Aqua Springs from Clarksville, could not help the impression that the soil of Hickman was poor, barren and unfruitful, and he would be astonished to think that it could support a county so well.

But let us travel with me around the Centerville Circuit, on the waters of the Swann, Lick and Leatherwood creeks, and then perambulate with me the vast bottoms lying along the waters of Duck River from Skip's Bend to Gray's Bend, and from there to the beautiful little village of Shady Grove, and he will say, surely this is one of the most fertile and productive counties in all of Middle Tennessee, and when he utters this sentiment, his head will be bowed, his brain of a good quality, and his perception keen. We can show them 300 acres of corn raised on a farm which does not exceed 100 acres, woodland, horse lots, cow range, manure, grove and all, with 3,000 well watered, large killing hogs within a radius of three miles square, all this can be done in the vicinity of Shady Grove and the mouth of Leatherwood, and other localities are like unto it. The peanut and cotton crops are not good this year. There is a singular fact connected with these several rivers and bottoms which I have made mention. Each of these bottoms are named after men and received their names some twenty-five years ago, and yet the progeny of those gentlemen for whom the several bends were named still, to a large extent, reside in those bends and "their name is legion, for they are many." Indeed, I am told all the Ship's company is near one hundred. Lott's not much less, and as to the Andersons, there is literally a desert of them, while the Grays are by no means small in number.

At Centerville, Dec. 24th, at seven o'clock p. m., the doors of the Methodist Church were thrown open to admit a large waiting assemblage of men, women and children. On entering we found the house decorated until the appearance was perfectly beautiful, while in front of the pulpit stood a large cedar lighted up with one hundred burning tapers, and as full of Christmas gifts as those trees are wont to be of snow birds on a cold snowy night in December. Prayer was offered by the writer, Mrs. Mary Johnson, gave us some beautiful music, after which Miss M. M. Johnson delivered an appropriate address, and the distribution of the presents began. The tree was found to yield more than "twelve manner of fruit," and gifts were found from the jehshup up to \$20 in gold. A beautiful shirt, pair of socks, and a velvet waistcoat were found to bear the writer's name, and I felt assured that the shirt and coat came out of the store of Clagett & Bro. This is the only good store of the kind that I know of in Hickman that has not changed hands or gone under within the last four years, it stands like a "stone wall."

Centerville has two nice churches, the Methodist and Christian; two good lawyers, Messrs. Mooney and Nichols; five physicians, Drs. Wood, Wilson, Norris, Pool and Thompson. It affords one good hotel and lively stable, kept by Capt. Thos. Esley.

## Fruit as a Diet.

In my rambles through the country I have been induced to observe and preserve from what I see items which have led me to conclude that there is too little being written upon the subject of fruit as a diet for the human family, or the raising of fruits and fruit trees.

In the first place, those who live in the Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky, where fruits to some extent have been cultivated for the last half century, and have never visited the new countries or the localities where fruits have been sparsely cultivated, have but little idea of the difference in the minds and caste of the people in general. In the one case, you have a people of quick perception, intelligent with plenty of life and energy as well as healthful morals; while on the other, you have a sluggish, slothful intellect, which cares but little for the morality of his neighbors and who is much more liable to take strong drink than the man who lives on fruits and vegetables. And while I am not a Jew or any part of a Jew, when we take into account the very small proportion of that race who die of scrofula, consumption, or any of the kind diseases and observe the little drunkenness among them compared with our own race, we are compelled to admit that there is a great deal of that cause being diet used, which is light meats and vegetables—and whether the theory here advanced be correct or not, every thinking man must admit that portion which refers to eating fruit as an every day diet for the promotion of health. And while Grangers and husbandmen are so freely discussing other branches of husbandry throughout the country, why is it that so little is said by the husbandmen and other interested in the raising and propagating the improved fruits in Middle Tennessee and Southern Kentucky. In the first place, this is a bit of country which has many advantages for the raising and propagating of trees, as well as many locations so situated as to make a crop of fruit almost every season an absolute certainty, while we have easy access to the best markets on the continent, Louisville, Cincinnati, Chicago, St. Louis, and other points being near by and very indifferently supplied with

good fruit. While little is being said about it, we are glad to know that there are men of ability who, by patience and perseverance, have set on foot a first class nursery business in Middle Tennessee, and where northern nurseries before the war sold thousands of trees, there are now being sold tens of thousands which have been raised in Tennessee, and to-day Nashville can boast of nurseries which will compare favorably with any on the continent.

Mr. Geo. Irvine, an excellent young man living near Mt. Pleasant, in this county, died Dec. 26.

I was greatly pained to learn of the death of your worthy citizen, H. M. Atkins. If I had been asked on oath to name three of the best men in Montgomery county, I should have named Wm. Elliott, James W. Manson and H. M. Atkins.

W. D. CHERRY.  
Centerville, Tenn., Jan. 3, 1876.

## LETTER FROM SOUTH CAROLINA.

Editors CHRONICLE.—You will doubtless be surprised at receiving a communication from this part of Radicalism, as your humble servant, I expect is about the only reader of the dear old CHRONICLE in this State.—But when the last number was received to-day, bearing date of December 25, I could not resist the impulse of the moment to write a few lines to you. The visits of the CHRONICLE are always gladly welcomed, but the one of to-day particularly so, because it brought to mind the many merry Christmas days, spent in old Montgomery in the days long since, with some of the best of the South Side boys, at least many of them are considered good men, and that they might have been a sample of them, with many others whose names I see mentioned from time to time in the CHRONICLE, besides a host of them, who with us grew to manhood and are filling life's mission, acting their part in the drama, or have passed on to that bourne from whence no traveler returns.—And there are others whose names bring back pleasant memories of the past. Charlie, who now wears the ermine, one of our earliest schoolboy friends, who we suppose has long since forgotten the games of our boyhood, and numbered among the dead. And Major Hick, I wonder if he now remembers a little ride with the boys in blue, and our early breakfast with Capt. T. Y. D., winding up with our grand entrance into Clarksville, the observed of all observers, from whence, after a short stay, we were ordered to make a visit to the capital of our dear old State; the successful escape, and recapture of the gallant Major, (by the way he was the only man I ever saw form quite an episode in the life of one of our Montgomery's truest men and bravest soldiers. And then there is old Wad Gelby, seeking to hide behind such a *nom de guerre* as that.—Please ask him if a duck will swim, and if he still remembers the charge at Falling Water, and his gallant career. Perhaps he will think the last a bootless question, to be asked by some one from away down in South Carolina.

Then came the pleasant letters, with grace notes, from Woodlawn, where he spent two years, working with J. D. N., an honest, but as lazy a man, as ever lived; and New Providence, whose one street ought to be called straight, if it is not, from whence the acrostics come so freely of late to the CHRONICLE. There, we spent a few months once, when we had run away for the purpose of learning the printer's trade with the lamented Faxon, of the Jeffersonian, but our heart failed us, and we could venture no farther, and we were obliged to return to the Red River bridge, and our dreams of future glory were worn out or dispelled by the hard labor of carrying brick and mortar on our head to build the big stack to Pettus and Co's flouring mills at Trice's Landing, which was the first job of work upon which our gallant Mc C. was engaged after he came south to work at his trade of millwright.

And now dear CHRONICLE after so many rambling reminiscences I will close by wishing you and all your readers a happy and prosperous New Year, and I hope in it for all the dear old friends and acquaintances of the past.

## I remain, yours truly,

VIDETTE.  
Blackstock, Chester County S. C.  
Dec. 27 1875.

## Fruit as a Diet.

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## Tobacco Sales.

Central Warehouse.

KENTUCKY, HAMBURG & Co., of the Central Tobacco Warehouse, sold on the 4th inst, 20 Hds. as follows:

12 Hds. Lugs from \$3 to 5 50.

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